Blaisdell Lake

Summer 2020 Newsletter



BLPA Beach and Boating Guildlines

We welcome summer and the opportunity to enjoy all that Blaisdell Lake has to offer. Because the threat of the Covid-19 pandemic looms large, the Board of Directors requests that all BLPA members and guests keep the health, safety and well-being of all as a top priority. Wright's Beach is private and has remained open to BLPA members. As you use the beach and other lake resources this summer, we kindly ask that you follow the guidelines issued by the State of New Hampshire. Note that guidelines are subject to change, so please stay up to date with the latest.

You know the drill by now, but as a gentle reminder: as of the first half of June, NH state guidelines include social distancing, limiting

gatherings to small groups of ten or less, wearing a face covering or mask when in potential close contact with others, and asking those from out-of-state coming in New Hampshire for an extended stay to self-quarantine for a two week period.

In the interest of keeping everyone safe, BLPA will not be placing chairs and other shared amenities at the beach. When you come to use the beach, please bring your own chairs, umbrellas and such and take them with you each time you leave the beach.

We're all in this together. These are challenging and worrying times for everyone. Let's show kindness and respect to all who share our lake. Stay well and be considerate of everyone, now more than ever.

Abbreviated Summer Calendar

All Town of Bradford Fourth of July events have been cancelled. The traditional BLPA July Fourth boat parade and flares night will be held as scheduled. BLPA 70th Anniversary plans are cancelled. The Association's annual meeting will be held via Zoom. Refer to additional details in this newsletter.

Saturday, July 4 4 PM - Pud Ellsworth Boat Parade

9 PM - Flares and Fireworks

Monday, July 13 6 PM - BLPA Board Meets via Zoom

Saturday, July 25 9 AM - Annual Meeting via Zoom - NOTE TIME CHANGE!

Weed Watchers Needed

BLPA needs your help to keep Blaisdell Lake free from invasive species. Each member is asked to volunteer for <u>at least one weed watch block</u> at Wright's Beach during weekends and holidays throughout the season.

NEW!

IMPORTANT WEED WATCH INFORMATION

- Be safe and be prepared for boat inspections; bring your face covering and hand sanitizer
- Please bring your own chair and desired shade protection
- Please do not park your vehicle on the private property across the street
- Do not allow boaters to use the private property across the street when launching boats

PLEASE sign up now!

Boat Ramp - Next Chapter

The BLPA Board of Directors met via Zoom over the Memorial Day weekend. The Executive Committee presented a review of the complete survey of the lake bed that was conducted during the off season in front of the boat ramp area. Based on the Executive Committee review of the engineering assessments and subsequent recommendation to the board, the board voted that we do no further work to the boat ramp at this time. The beach appears to have reclaimed itself naturally and there are no known issues with launching boats this season.

Without the need to keep the area accessible for possible ramp repair, the fence and gate to the boat ramp will be repaired and replaced as soon as possible. A new gate will be installed in the existing fence opening, which is a bit south of

original opening, and will maintain the current opening width. The repair effort will include addressing the granite curbing and roadside drainage to encourage runoff would be directed toward the culvert north of the gate and not down the ramp and into the lake.

The engineering assessment included a recommendation that the berm along the shore by the ramp could be moved to the highwater mark of the existing stream bank to help manage stream overflow. Because no equipment may be brought onto the beach without a lengthy and expensive permitting process, the berm relocation must be done manually. The board will be looking for volunteers to help with this project.

Membership Dues Reminder

It's not too late! Please submit your BLPA membership dues for the 2020 season. Dues are essential to fund operating expenses, including beach taxes, water quality testing, dam registration and more. New members are welcome. Please share this invitation with any new friends or neighbors who are interested in joining our lake community. Send your check made out to BLPA for \$85 to:

BLPA

Attn: Membership PO Box 453 South Sutton, NH 03273

Flares for Sale!

Proceeds to benefit BLPA
Flares will be sold this year, although you may
need to arrange curbside pick-up. Contact:
Bill Hallahan 603-938-2339
Carrie Godkin 603-938-5457
Chan Blodgett 603-938-2965

Fireworks Safety and Etiquette

Each year at this time we acknowledge that fireworks are legal in the Granite State, but common sense and common



courtesy should be the rule for all who use them. This year we add public health concerns to the list, as fireworks often attract a crowd.

As always, please try to avoid using fireworks that create lots of fragments and trash that can litter our beaches and coves. Please clean up all debris after discharging any fireworks. Please practice social distancing when using fireworks. Luckily the show is best viewed from a distance!

As a courtesy to all, try to limit the use of fireworks to the designated Flares and Fireworks night on July 4. Some of our neighbors do not enjoy the loud sounds as much as others! Celebrate safely.



1950 - 2020 Blaisdell Lake Protective Association

2020 Annual Meeting Details

With the health and well-being of the membership in mind, the board has elected to hold the 2020 BLPA Annual Meeting virtually via Zoom. The BLPA By-Laws state that the annual meeting may be held at a time and place designated by the Board of Directors, so Zoom it is. The decision was a difficult one, but prudent considering the state guidelines in place and the fact that Camp Wabasso is closed for the season.

The board is working in advance to make this experience as friendly as possible. All information and materials pertinent to the Annual Meeting will be distributed to the membership for review and comment prior to the meeting. These materials will include the meeting agenda, draft minutes from the July 2019 meeting, committee reports, updated financial and budget documents and any other information deemed relevant. Due to the nature of Zoom and the potential number of participants, the typical general discussion that we enjoy in person will be limited, so please review the materials and provide comments and questions in advance so they may be addressed on the call. This will allow us to insure we conduct necessary business per the By-Laws during the Zoom call.

Many of us have had an opportunity to use this web-based video conferencing application over the past few months - some more than they might wish! For others, this may present a challenge, especially from the lake depending on what technology you have available. Instructions to join the Zoom meeting will be supplied in advance with opportunitty to seek help as needed. The board kindly asks that each member log on to the Zoom call from just one computer or smartphone per household to make the meeting more manageable for the meeting host.

BLPA Executive Board Contact Information

President - Chris Kelley

Vice President - Doug DeLand

Treasurer - Kristine Mozes

Clerk - Betsy Fowler

Past President - Bruce Ellsworth

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Membership Directory

The first edition of the BLPA Membership
Directory will be emailed to members in goodstanding by mid-June. We are thrilled that the
vast majority of members wish be included. This
is a "Members Only" directory; please do not
share member information with outsiders or use it
for business purposes. If you have additional
questions, please contact a membership
representative.

Vicki Willard, Membership Chair

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Betsy Fowler, <u>tinkerf@mcttelecom.com</u> 603-938-5367

Gail Olson, <u>g_olson@tds.net</u> 603-938-2446

Weed Watch Needs YOU!! Please take your turn! Sign up here.

Cover banner thanks to BLPA board member Jo-Ala Barney-Markson and daughter Erica Markson

Kindly direct omissions, corrections, and suggestions for additional content to Newsletter Editor, Dorothy Jeffrey djeffrey@comcast.net

BLPA IS A 501(C)(3) ORGANIZATION DEDICATED TO THE PROTECTION AND ENHANCEMENT OF BLAISDELL LAKE AND ITS WATERSHED

Sponsor-A-Highway

Another casualty of the Covid-19 pandemic is BLPA's participation in the NHDOT Sponsor-A-Highway program. Our organization sponsors the stretch of Rt. 114 from the flashing lights at Main Street in Bradford to Russell Pond. Ordinarily, Tim Beale fulfills this responsibility with a small band of volunteers. Out of public health concern, followed by the appearance of poison ivy and ticks, Tim was not able to accomplish his task this spring. Other sponsors in Sutton and surrounding towns were also stymied by concern for the virus this spring. Tim reports that we can reconsider the effort for this fall. In the meantime, if you see any trash along this route, find your gloves, pick it up and wash your hands! Thank you!